

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 164

By Miller

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Richard W. Smith,
Regional President of The Americas and
Executive Vice President of FedEx.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Richard W. Smith, the regional president of the Americas, which includes the domestic United States, Canada, Latin America, and the Caribbean, and executive vice president of Global Support for FedEx Express; and

WHEREAS, during the recent winter storm and the transportation delays that occurred, Mr. Smith worked tirelessly to ensure that FedEx's Memphis hub prioritized the most urgent shipments first, including vaccines, cancer drugs, and medical devices for surgeries; and

WHEREAS, under his leadership, FedEx was able to minimize the amount of vaccines stuck in the company's network due to its in-house meteorology team's warnings on the weather, as the company diverted volume from the Memphis hub and its wintry conditions to hubs in Indianapolis, Newark, and Oakland; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith began his illustrious career with FedEx in 2005 and has served this esteemed company in numerous capacities, including regional president for FedEx Express, U.S. Domestic; president and CEO of FedEx Logistics; and various leadership positions in life sciences, healthcare, and customer solutions, including service as vice president of global trade services and managing director of life sciences and specialty services; and

WHEREAS, a native of Memphis, Mr. Smith earned his undergraduate degree from George Washington University and his Juris Doctor from the University of Mississippi School of Law; and

WHEREAS, an active part of his community, Mr. Smith is the immediate past chairman of the Greater Memphis Chamber of Commerce and serves on its Chairman's Circle Board; he is a member of Launch Tennessee, the Coalition of Services Industries, and Epicenter Memphis; and

WHEREAS, Richard Smith epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, we find it appropriate to pause in our deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Richard Smith for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Richard W. Smith on his distinguished career with FedEx and his stalwart leadership during the recent winter storm and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.